

# **Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Policy**

## **Introduction:**

The Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Policy of the MSME Incubation Center at A. G. Patil Institute of Technology (AGPIT), Solapur, outlines the principles and guidelines for the protection, management, and utilization of intellectual property developed by startups and individuals within the incubation center.

## **Objective:**

The primary objective of this IPR Policy is to:

- Encourage and support innovation and creativity among startups.
- Establish clear guidelines for the identification, protection, and management of intellectual property.
- Safeguard the rights and interests of startup founders, AGPIT, and external stakeholders.
- Foster a culture of respect for intellectual property within the incubation center.

## **Definitions:**

**Intellectual Property (IP):** Intellectual Property includes patents, trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets, and any other forms of intellectual creations, inventions, and innovations.

**Startups:** Refers to the registered entities or individuals incubated within AGPIT's MSME Incubation Center.

## **Intellectual Property Ownership:**

**Startup-Owned IP:** Startups retain ownership of the intellectual property they create during their incubation period at AGPIT. The incubation center acknowledges the startup's ownership rights.

**AGPIT-Owned IP:** AGPIT may own certain IP developed as part of research projects, collaborations, or any other activities conducted within the

incubation center. Ownership will be determined based on pre-existing agreements and project-specific terms.

### **Intellectual Property Protection:**

**Startup Responsibility:** Startups are responsible for identifying and protecting their IP, including filing for patents, trademarks, and copyrights when applicable. AGPIT will provide guidance and support in this process.

**Confidentiality:** Startups are encouraged to maintain confidentiality regarding their IP until appropriate protection measures are in place. Sharing of IP-related information should be done on a need-to-know basis.

### **IPR Management:**

**Record Keeping:** Startups are required to maintain detailed records of their IP, including invention disclosures, patent filings, trademark registrations, and copyright records. AGPIT may request access to these records for monitoring and support.

**Commercialization:** Startups are encouraged to explore opportunities for commercializing their IP. AGPIT will assist in connecting startups with potential investors, partners, and licensing opportunities.

### **Dispute Resolution:**

In the event of any disputes related to IP ownership or rights between startups and AGPIT, a mutually agreeable resolution process will be followed, which may include negotiation, mediation, or arbitration.

### **Compliance:**

Startups and individuals within the incubation center are expected to comply with all applicable laws and regulations related to intellectual property.

### **Review and Amendments:**

This IPR Policy will be subject to periodic review and may be amended or updated as necessary to align with changing needs and circumstances.

**Conclusion:**

The IPR Policy of AGPIT's MSME Incubation Center is designed to foster innovation, protect intellectual property rights, and facilitate the responsible and ethical use of intellectual property. It is our commitment to creating an environment where startups can thrive while respecting the principles of intellectual property. We look forward to working with startups to realize their innovative ideas and creations.